



[10191/857]

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
GROUP ART UNIT 1743

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventors : Gerhard SCHNEIDER et al.  
Serial No. : 09/176,124  
Filed : October 21, 1998  
 : PLANAR SENSOR ELEMENT  
Examined : Ta Hsung Tung  
Art Unit : 1743

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1700

AUG 14 2002

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*Inf Lee*

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action dated June 4, 2002, kindly amend the above-captioned application as follows. Entry of the amendments is respectfully requested since the amendments raise no new issues and put the claims in condition for allowance.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 without prejudice as follows:

1. (Six Times Amended) A planar sensor element for determining at least one gas component, comprising:  
a layer structure including:  
a measuring cell layer having at least one surface;  
a covering <sup>32</sup>layer;  
a heating element disposed between the measuring cell layer and the covering layer and generating a